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A new species of *Licania* (Chrysobalanaceae) from Cordillera del Cóndor, Ecuador

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Abstract

A new mid altitude species of the predominantly lowland genus *Licania*, *L. condoriensis* from Ecuador is described and illustrated.

Keywords

Chrysobalanaceae, *Licania*, Cordillera del Cóndor, Ecuador

Introduction

A worldwide monograph of the Chrysobalanaceae was published in 2003 (Prance and Sothers 2003a, b). Some recent collections from Ecuador made in 2005 are of an undescribed species of *Licania*. This genus of 218 species is predominantly a lowland one and all three collections of this new species, *L. condoriensis*, are from an altitude of over 1,100 m. Table 1 lists 14 montane and submontane species of *Licania* that occur mainly at altitudes of over one thousand metres.

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Description

***Licania condoriensis* Prance, sp. nov.**
urn:lsid:ipni.org:names:77132009-1
http://species-id.net/wiki/Licania_condoriensis
Fig. 1

Ab *L. compacta* foliis subcoriaceis, haud nitidibus, haud dense brunneo-tomentosis, staminibus 7-8 differt.

Type. Ecuador. Zamora-Chinchipe, El Pangui, Cordillera del Cóndor, plateau of Contrafuerte, Tres Patines, W of main Cóndor ridge above Jardin Botánico of EcuaCorriente Copper Company, 03°37'48"S, 78°26'50"W, 1685 m. 2 Dec 2005, *D. Neill & W. Quizhpe 15076* (holotype K; isotypes, MO, QCNE).

Small tree 3–7 m tall, young branches appressed puberulous, soon glabrous. Leaf lamina broadly ovate, 2.5–6 × 1.5–3.5 cm, subcoriaceous, acute or with short blunt acumen at apex, rounded to subcuneate at base, margins entire, glabrous and dull with densely reticulate prominulous venation above, with well-developed stomatal cavities beneath, the venation flattened around slit-like apertures of cavities, the venation glabrous and the cavities filled by a mass of white, unicellular simple hairs; veins 13–15 pairs, plane above, prominulous beneath; petioles glabrous, 3–10 mm long, rugose, with two sessile glands near apex. Stipules lanceolate, early caducous. Inflorescences short once-branched panicles 3–5 cm long, lateral branches borne at 90 degrees to rachis, the rachis and branches densely yellowish-brown tomentose. Flowers c 2 mm long, sessile or subsessile on primary branches of inflorescence; bracteoles oblong-triangular, acute, 1–1.5 mm long, tomentose on exterior and with ciliate margins. Receptacle campanulate, 1.5 mm long, yellowish-brown tomentose on exterior; calyx-lobes c. 1 mm long, acute, triangular, densely tomentose on exterior, tomentose within; petals absent; stamens 7–8, included, filaments equaling or shorter than the calyx lobes in length, c. 0.8 mm long. Ovary inserted at base of receptacle, unilocular with 2 ovules; style pubescent at base. Young fruit only seen, puberulous, glabrescent, unilocular.

Additional specimens examined. Ecuador. Morona-Santiago: Limon Indanza, Cordillera del Cóndor, Centro Shuar Yunkumas, Cerro Chuank Naint, 03°03'31"S, 78°14'48"W, 1,130 m, 19 Dec 2005, *A. Wisum & Grupo Shuar de Conservación 326* (K, MO, QCNE); same locality, Asociación Nunkui, 03°3'34"S, 78°14'45"W, 1,150 m, 19 Dec 2005, *C.Morales, A. Wisum & C. Kajekai 1593* (K, MO, QCNE).

This distinct mid-altitude *Licania* belongs to Section *Licania* of the genus and is probably most closely related to *L. compacta* Fritsch from Roraima in Guyana, but differs from *L. compacta* in the much less coriaceous, more acute leaves with a dull rather than shiny upper surface and in lacking the dense pubescence that covers the stomatal cavities of the latter and in the greater number of stamens. The leaves of *L. condoriensis* are very similar to those of *L. octandra* (Hofmanns. ex Roem & Schultes) Kuntze sub-

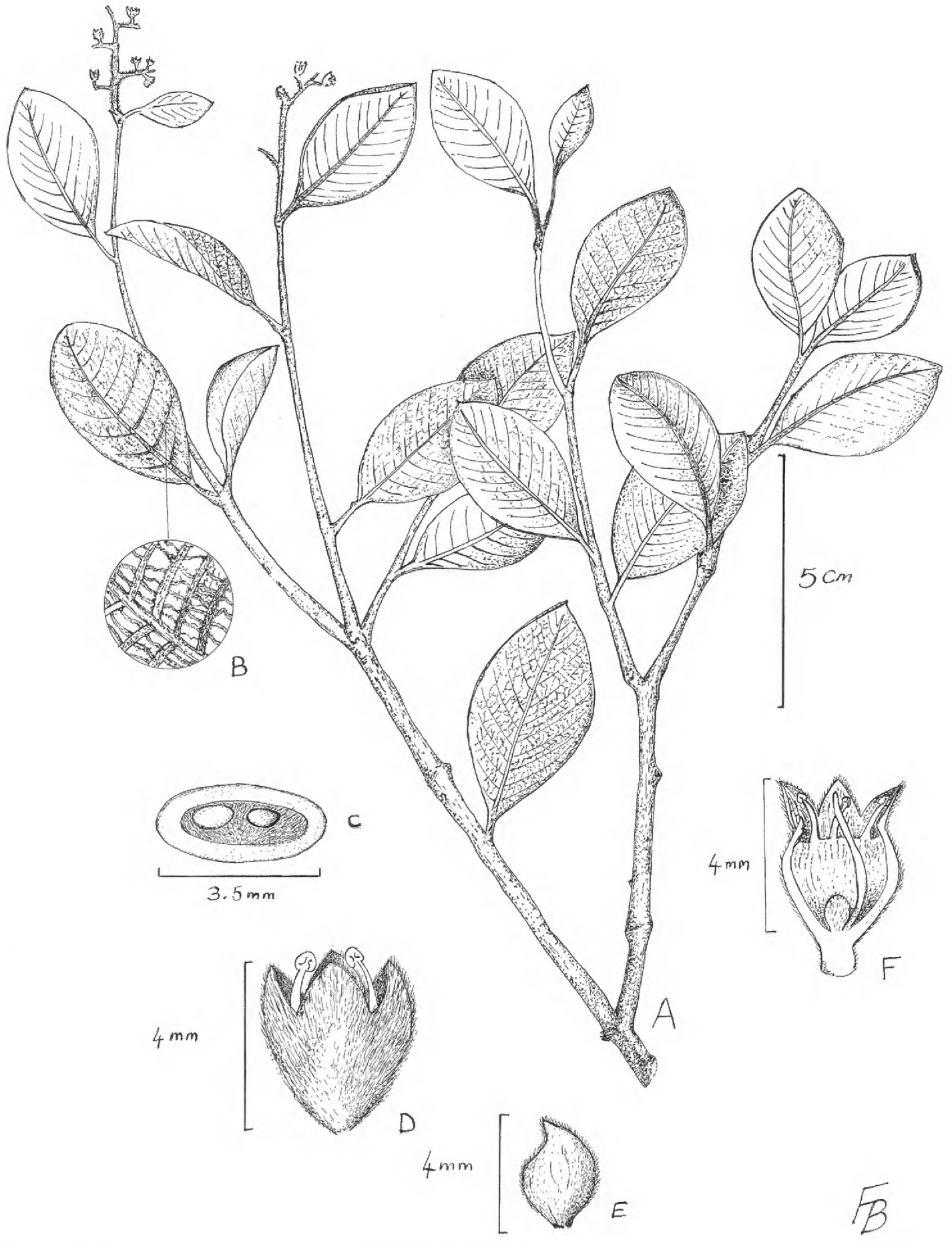

Figure 1. *Licania condoriensis* Prance: **A** habit **B** leaf undersurface showing reticulation from the deep stomatal cavities **C** ovary cross section **D** flower **E** bracteole **F** flower section. (Drawn from *Neill & Quizhpe 15076* by Flora Bamford).

sp. *octandra*, but it differs in the fewer stamens (7-8 vs 9-12) that are included rather than far exserted. All collections of *L. condoriensis* are from the Cordillera del Cóndor for which this species is named.

Table 1. Species of *Licania* (Chrysobalanaceae) occurring mainly at above 1000 m.

Species	Locality	Altitude
Licania* subgenus *Moquilea* section *Moquilea		
L. durifolia Cuatr.	Colombia, Ecuador, Peru	500–2000 m
L. cabrerae Prance	Colombia: Antioquia	2200–2550 m
L. montana Prance	Venezuela: Lara	1300–1500 m
L. hedbergii Prance	Ecuador: Napo	1600 m
L. longicuspidata Prance	Ecuador: Carchi	650–1800 m
L. cariae A. Cardozo	Venezuela: Aragua	1100–2000 m
L. chiriquiensis Prance	Panama: Chiriqui	1007–1200 m
Licania* subgenus *Moquilea* section *Leptobalanus		
L. jefensis Prance	Panama: Chiriqui	1007 m
Licania* subgenus *Licania* section *Hymenopus		
L. pakaraimensis Prance	Venezuela: Bolívar	1400 m
Licania* subgenus *Licania		
L. subrotundata Maguire	Venezuela: Dist. Federal	1200–2000 m
L. aracaensis Prance	Brazil: Amazonas	1000 m
L. pittieri Prance	Venezuela: Aragua	1100–2200 m
L. tepuiensis Prance	Venezuela: Bolívar	1350 m
L. condoriensis Prance	Ecuador: Zamora-Chinchipe	1130–1685 m

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